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From: Joe Dorant <jdorant@moses-ma.org>
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2011 4:20 PM
To: Hanchett, James (DPH)
Subject: FW: Questions Regarding Drug Lab

Jim
What is the best way to contact you by telephone ?
Joe

-----Original Message-----

From: Ann Looney [<mailto:alooney@moses-ma.org>]
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2011 2:40 PM
To: 'Bridget Quinn'
Cc: 'Dorant, Joe'; 'B. Marie Cunningham'
Subject: FW: Questions Regarding Drug Lab

FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: Hanchett, James (DPH) [<mailto:james.hanchett@state.ma.us>]
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2011 2:27 PM
To: Looney, Ann
Subject: RE: Questions Regarding Drug Lab

I should be able to get more info by tomorrow, but this is what I have now.
Thanks,
Jim

1. How many total number of MOSES represented employees are in the Amherst Drug Lab? 4
2. Are there any non-MOSES represented staff in the Amherst Drug Lab? If any please provide their names, titles and bargaining unit designation (if you know)? Only the 4 MOSES members.
3. How many cases/items are analyzed each year by the staff? In 2011 we analyzed 4629 samples from Western Mass. And 1527 from the Boston area.
4. How many cases/items are received each year? We received 4832 samples from Western Mass and 1527 from the Boston area.
5. What is the current state of the backlog? 167 samples. Turnaround time?
Average turnaround time is 33 days.
6. What would the likely consequences be for analysts in order to satisfy Melendez -Diaz decision requirements, i.e., would analysts have to travel from JP to various courts in Western MA? Yes they would. We have a working agreement with area DA's to put us on call. This would be impossible if we had to travel from Jamaica Plain, JP to North Adams would take 3 ½ hours.
How will this impact analysts ability to actually perform analyses? There is no space available in Jamaica Plain to handle 4 more chemists. Most likely 4 positions would be lost from the drug lab, this would increase turnaround time significantly. Also, would city & town police officers have to make chain of custody treks to Boston? Springfield PD comes in once a week with samples while Holyoke PD comes in every 3 weeks. This closure would turn a 3 hour travel and drop off to all day. With fuel costs this would considerable affect cities and towns.
7. Who should Bridget Quinn contact in Western MA Law enforcement, i.e.,- Springfield Police Dept? Kevin Burnham 413-455-5579
8. Who should I contact in DA's office? Hamden County 1st ADA James Orenstein 413-747-1000.

Northwestern ADA in charge of Narcotics Jeremy Bucci
413-774-3186 and Berkshire County ADA in charge of Narcotics Richard Locke
413-443-5951

From: Ann Looney [<mailto:alooney@moses-ma.org>]
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2011 1:54 PM
To: Hanchett, James (DPH)
Cc: 'Bridget Quinn'; BQuinn@moses-ma.org; 'B. Marie Cunningham'; Dorant, Joe
Subject: FW: Questions Regarding Drug Lab
Importance: High

Jim,

Here is the information that MOSES Legislative Lobbyist Bridget Quinn needs right away. Also, it would be helpful if once you've responded to the numbered questions you could begin gathering the equipment information. If we could have that information prior to Wednesday afternoon, that would be great. Once Bridget has developed a "Legislative Fact Sheet" we'll send that out to you for distribution to city and town officials, police departments etc. For now if you could keep all this just amongst those listed on this email and MOSES members in your lab. Thanks and if you have any questions, let me know. Ann.

Questions for UMASS lab

1. How many total number of MOSES represented employees are in the Amherst Drug Lab?
2. Are there any non-MOSES represented staff in the Amherst Drug Lab? If any please provide their names, titles and bargaining unit designation (if you know)?
3. How many cases/items are analyzed each year by the staff?
4. How many cases/items are received each year?
5. What is the current state of the backlog? Turnaround time?
6. What would the likely consequences be for analysts in order to satisfy Melendez -Diaz decision requirements, i.e., would analysts have to travel from JP to various courts in Western MA? How will this impact analysts ability to actually perform analyses? Also, would city & town police officers have to make chain of custody treks to Boston?
7. Who should Bridget Quinn contact in Western MA Law enforcement, i.e.,- Springfield Police Dept?
8. Who should I contact in DA's office?

After responding to these questions would you please attempt to list the office equipment, i.e. copy machine(s), telephones, facsimile machine, computers etc and the associated costs....could we find out how old the equipment is? What kind of leases they have and the potential buy-out of these leases....

Also, the same for the lab equipment.

Ann M. Looney
General Counsel
MOSES
90 North Washington Street, Suite 3
Boston, MA
alooney@moses-ma.org
617-367-2727; 1-800-845-1141

"C'est en faisant n'importe quoi qu'on devient n'importe qui" Remi Gaillard (It's by doing whatever that one becomes whoever)